

# TASK 3: 5G CONSPIRACY THEORIES SKYROCKETED

The advent of 5G has raised many concerns among people, to the **- 0 - EXAMPLE** that anti-5G movements have emerged in various countries in recent months.

The false news concerning 5G spread at lightning speed on social networks, relayed by influencers and celebrities and reinforcing the fears of people who were already suspicious of 5G's potential health effects.

These conspiracy theories argue, for example, that the spread of the virus from the epicentre of the pandemic in Wuhan, China, is linked to the large number of 5G towers in the city. In reality, a 5G network is not even fully **- 1 -** there. Other theories falsely claim that the waves emitted by the 5G infrastructure would **- 2 -** our immune system. The World Health Organization (WHO) has had to warn that the networks do not spread COVID-19 and that viruses do not circulate over radio waves or mobile networks.

## A revolutionary technology?

The fifth generation of wireless communication technologies, 5G is expected to better cope with the explosion of global data traffic predicted in the coming years. Among its impacts, 5G will accelerate the automation of industries, the introduction of autonomous vehicles, the development of smart cities, telehealth and remote surgery. All this will be made possible by three main factors: increased connection speeds through improved use of high frequency bands, reduced latency and the use of next generation infrastructure such as small directional antennas. These antennae with signal relay devices can be integrated into street **- 3 -**, buildings, transport and utilities to support targeted signal distribution.

Taking into account the potential and real risks and effects on human health, what is the social cost of these new ultra-connected devices?

## Deployment in Canada

**- 4 -** by the Information and Communications Technology Council of Canada (ICTC) as “the last beachfront property,” the deployment of 5G in Canada is in the pre-commercialization phase. It will take several more months before Canadians can truly benefit from the innovative services and uses associated with this technology.

Since the end of 2019, major telecommunications companies have announced the construction of their networks and the selection of their equipment manufacturers. Rogers has teamed up with Swedish giant Ericsson, Vidéotron with South Korea's Samsung, Bell has chosen Finland's Nokia, and Telus has **- 5 -** a partnership with China's Huawei. It should be noted that the federal government has still not authorized Canadian suppliers to use Huawei's equipment. This is a sensitive issue, given the allegations of espionage against Huawei, which is suspected of having ties with the Chinese government.

In addition, delays can be expected in the **- 6 -** of frequencies and the establishment of 5G networks due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The latest Ericsson Mobility Report estimates that the 5G market will not really take off until 2021, and forecasts more than one billion subscriptions worldwide by 2023.

## No danger to human health

Several scientists are concerned about the possible effects of exposure to electromagnetic fields generated by devices connected to the 5G network.

Some studies report symptoms observed in “electrosensitive” people such as stress, headaches, heart problems and **- 7 -** cognitive functions (memory, attention, co-ordination) in children. Nevertheless, there is no scientifically proven diagnosis and no causal link can be established today between these symptoms, which remain inexplicable, and exposure to electromagnetic fields.

Research validated by the WHO and health authorities in several countries — including Canada — conclude at this time that 5G does not **- 8 -** a danger to human health, given national and international standards that limit exposure to radio frequencies. It is already an established fact that electromagnetic waves are not powerful enough to reach the cells of the human body and affect our immune system.

## The object of all fears

The use of 5G has become a controversial issue, crystallizing society's concerns. It is not the first time (and won't be the last) that technological progress has been challenged by irrational fear generated by uncertainty about the risks of a technology perceived as invasive.

However, the overwhelming enthusiasm of technophiles and other “early adopters” of technological innovations should not lead us into the “technological solutionism” that would present 5G as the new life-saving technology. **- 9 -**, the skepticism of technophobes and the opposition of anti-5G activists and conspiracy seekers must not lead us into collective paranoia.

Between these two extremes — and in the current context of a paradigm shift — we recommend a third way: reinventing society's relationship with technology in a rational way. It is possible to embrace the promises of the digital transformation without neglecting to take the necessary precautions for health and the environment. We must not fall into technological determinism and believe that we have no power **- 10 -** these technologies

Source: adapted from <https://theconversation.com>

**TASK 3.** You are going to read an article titled *5G Networks Conspiracy Theories Skyrocketed*. For items 1-10 choose the option (A, B, C or D) that best completes the gap. Write your final answers in the grid provided below, as shown in example 0.

10 points

0.	<b>A. extent</b>	<i>B. limit</i>	<i>C. grade</i>	<i>D. spot</i>
1.	A. ranked	B. mobilised	C. deployed	D. aligned
2.	A. decline	B. bloom	C. weaken	D. reduce/soften
3.	A. fixtures	B. smarts	C. waivers	D. urchins
4.	A. esteemed	B. regarded	C. monitored	D. entitled
5.	A. joined with	B. entered into	C. teamed into	D. agreed to
6.	A. induction	B. reassignment	C. designation	D. allocation
7.	A. impaired	B. flawed	C. disabled	D. defective
8.	A. lead to	B. threaten	C. cause	D. pose
9.	A. and yet	B. conversely	C. on account of that	D. most assuredly
10.	A. about	B. on	C. over	D. onto

<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>SCORE:</b>  ___ / 10
<b>A</b>											
✓											

## FULL DE RESPOSTES

### CTE COMPRESIÓ DE TEXTOS ESCRITS

#### PART 1. MULTIPLE CHOICE A Dystopian Vision of the Refugee Crisis

0.	<u>D</u>		3.	C	
1.	A		4.	D	
2.	B		5.	C	

#### PART 2. WORD FORMATION Postmodernism and Modern Philosophy

0.	<u>REACTION</u>		3.	INVESTIGATIVE		6.	EXPLANATORY	
1.	ASSUMPTIONS		4.	CONCEPTUAL		7.	DENIAL	
2.	CHARACTERISTICALLY		5.	HISTORIANS				

#### PART 3. MULTIPLE CHOICE LEXICAL CLOZE The Arrival

0.	<u>A</u>		3.	D		6.	B	
1.	C		4.	B		7.	D	
2.	C		5.	A		8.	C	

#### PART 4. GAPPED TEXT Being a Runner

0.	<u>A</u>		3.	B	
1.	D		4.	C	
2.	E		5.	F	

#### PART 5. KEY WORD TRANSFORMATIONS

1. The publication of her book has made him feel more lively. **LEASE**  
The publication of her book has given him a new lease of life.

2. I cannot understand his disruptive behavior. **LOSS**  
I am at a loss to understand his disruptive behavior.

3. They criticized the teacher's decision not to include R. Descartes in the curriculum. **FAULT**  
They found fault with the teacher's decision not to include R. Descartes in the curriculum.

4. If you don't know what you're doing you should not dismantle the computer. **APART**  
Do not take the computer apart unless you know what you're doing.

5. Our science club has won the national prize for the second year running. **SUCCESSION**  
For the second year running in succession, the national prize was won by our science club.

# **soluciones**

## **TEXT 3: 5G CONSPIRACY THEORIES SKYROCKETED**

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
A	C	C	A	B	B	D	A	D	B	C